

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 /043 W

----- 073637

R 271045Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6182

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 0573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MT. US

SUBJECT: MINTOFF'S DESIRE TO SEE SECRETARY KISSINGER

REF: (A) VALLETTA 0075; (B) STATE 018373

1. AS REFTEL INDICATED, PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF HAS LONG WANTED TO MEET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER, BUT REFERENCES TO THIS DESIRE HAVE USUALLY BEEN IN LOW KEY. FOR THE RECORD, LATEST APPROACH WAS MADE TO AMBASSADOR DURING MAY 22 CONVERSATION WITH JOE CAMILLERI, MINTOFF'S PRIVATE SECRETARY AND SENIOR AIDE. CAMILLERI SAID MINTOFF HAD NOTED NUMBER OF OTHER COMMONWEALTH LEADERS WHO HAD BEEN RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON BY PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY FOLLOWING JAMAICA MEETING. HE RECOGNIZED MINTOFF HAD NOT REQUESTED SUCH A MEETING BUT MANAGED TO IMPLY THAT WE SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF INVITING MINTOFF WITHOUT SUCH A REQUEST.

2. AMBASSADOR RELATED GRUELING SCHEDULES OF BOTH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY AND PHYSICAL IMPOSSIBILITY OF THEIR MEETING WITH AS MANY FOREIGN LEADERS AS THEY MIGHT LIKE. CAMILLERI SAID HE AND MINTOFF UNDERSTOOD THIS, BUT PM FOUND IT "INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT" TO UNDERSTAND WHY SECRETARY KISSINGER COULD NOT AT LEAST VISIT MALTA BRIEFLY --"FOR EVEN A DAY AS A REST STOP"--ON ONE OF HIS FREQUENT TRIPS TO EUROPE OR THE MIDDLE EAST. AMBASSADOR SAID WHILE HE WOULD AGAIN INFORM DEPT OF MINTOFF'S STANDING INVITATION TO SECRETARY, HE WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT SECRETARY'S FULL SCHEDULE WOULD

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PERMIT ACCEPTANCE.

3. COMMENT: AS POLITICAL CAMPAIGN LEADING TO GENERAL ELECTION WITHIN NEXT YEAR INTENSIFIES, SO WILL MINTOFF'S SELF-SERVING ATTEMPTS TO SEEK THE LIMELIGHT. WE SEE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD ASSIST HIM. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT AFTER A DECENT INTERVAL WE AGAIN INFORM GOM THAT SECRETARY'S FULL SCHEDULE SIMPLY DOES NOT RPT NOT PERMIT EVEN A "REST STOP" IN MALTA. SMITH

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## Message Attributes

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